

# WEEKLY NEWSLETTER



## MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL



COLORADO  
Measures of  
Academic  
Success

Dear Families,

**Please be informed that we will begin the Colorado Measures of Academic Success (CMAS) assessments on March 22, 2021- April 30, 2021.** These Assessments are aligned to the Colorado Academic Standards, which are statewide expectations of what students should know and be able to do at the end of each grade. CMAS testing is for grades 3-8. All students will test for three days in math and literacy. 5th and 8th grade will test a fourth day in science.

### **OPTING OUT:**

While we believe that these tests are important, we understand that some families may decide they do not want to come in-person to participate in testing this year due to COVID-19. All testing must be done in person as there is no remote testing option. If you choose to opt out, you must fill out the opt out form located in the Parent Portal under the "See All Apps" tab by clicking on the link for Complete Assessment Opt-Out Form. This form is available for both students learning in-person and those learning in the virtual program. **Please complete this form no later than February 26 as this information is vital to our planning process. We need to have an exact count of students who will and will not be participating so that we can adjust staffing, testing schedules and adhere to all health and safety**



The Rae Harris Awards Committee is inviting students to join any of our workshops with professors/experts who want to share their passions and ignite more curiosity in DPS. Sessions in astrophysics, social work, law, archaeology, and more. PLEASE COME.

Click **HERE** or copy and paste the link below to sign up:

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSe-VJFF-3AMVMgUUTRahlHjJfPekJrgZnlpyBgm7rC2jIZMag/viewform>

For more information or for questions, please contact:

**Coy Rice, D.M.**  
[coy\\_rice@dpsk12.org](mailto:coy_rice@dpsk12.org)  
**Dr. Rice's GT Site**



**SAVE THE DATE**

**FRIDAY, MARCH 26, 10:00AM - 2:00PM!**

In partnership with CREA Result, and Denver Health, Place Bridge Academy will be hosting a community personal health screening and COVID-19 testing, on Friday, March 26, 2021! Details will be coming shortly and we hope you will be able to join us on that day.

**PLEASE REACH OUT TO ME IF YOU NEED ANY  
SUPPORT!**

**[andrew\\_schutz@dpsk12.org](mailto:andrew_schutz@dpsk12.org)**

**FREE WEEKLY FOOD DELIVERY FOR HOME  
AGED 6 - 18!**

Denver Food Cluster is providing free weekly food deliveries of 7 meals, 14 snacks, and 7 cartons of milk for each child in the home aged 6-18. This is for all Denver families living within 20 miles of the capital building. Once a family signs up, deliveries start within a week or 2. The deliveries continue through June of this year. Here is the link for families to sign up. Click **HERE** or copy and paste the link below for more information or to register your children <https://www.coloradofoodcluster.com/sign-up-and-manage-deliveries>

**FREE CLOTHING TO STUDENTS AGES 2- 21!**

Clothes To Kids of Denver offers school clothing to any student ages 3-21. They stock a wide selection of clean, stylish, top quality clothing. Students can shop in a welcoming, store-like environment or an order can be placed on-line and picked up without going in the store.

The Clothes To Kids Wardrobe consists of:

- 5 tops
- 4 bottoms (shorts, pants, skirts and/or dresses)
- 1 additional dress or skirt (optional)
- 5 pairs of new underwear
- 5 pairs of new socks
- 1 bra (optional)
- 1 pair of shoes
- 1 coat or jacket
- Extras (accessories, school supplies, etc – if available)

To make an appointment, please call (720) 379-4630 or email [appointment@clothestokidsdenver.org](mailto:appointment@clothestokidsdenver.org).

When scheduling, the following information is needed for each child:

- First name,
- Last name and
- Date of birth.

When you go in the store to shop or email to place a order to be packed, you will need the following for each child:

- Sizes for clothing, shoes, socks and underwear.
- Color, style and clothing type preferences.
- Specific needs and special requests.

**Please reach out to Sarah Sheehan @ 303-807-8272 with questions.**

## SPORTS!

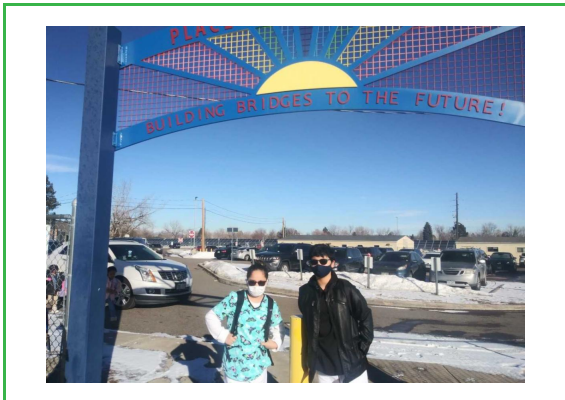
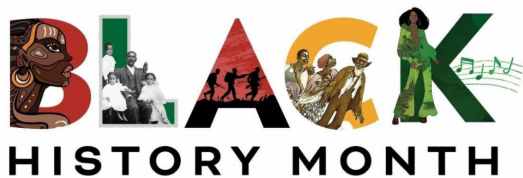
Dear Parents,

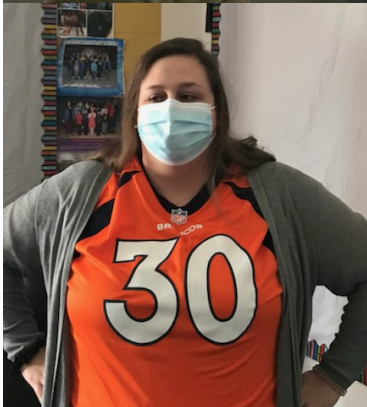
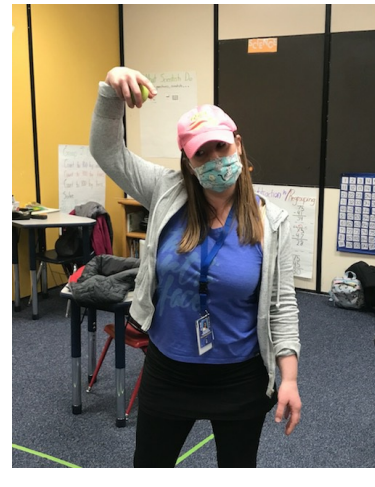
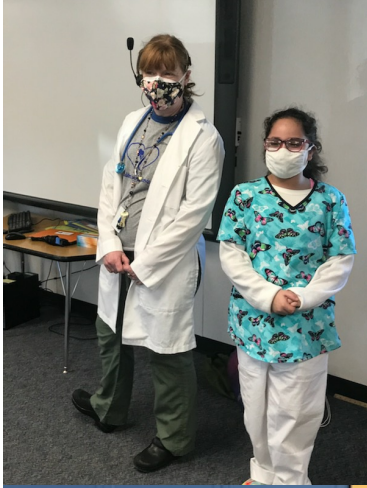
Please be informed that the Athletic Department is still waiting to hear if and when middle school sports will begin for the new school year! Stay tuned!

As always, please feel free to contact me with any question(s) you may have.

Good Luck, Roadrunners!

**Kathleen Nickless**  
**Athletic Director**  
**Phone: 720-424-1042**  
**Email: [kathleen\\_nickless@dpsk12.org](mailto:kathleen_nickless@dpsk12.org)**







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## UPCOMING EVENTS!

March 9 - CSC Meeting - 4:15 - 5:15 pm

March 29 - April 2 - Spring Breaks - No School - Offices closed

March 31 - Cesar Chavez Day

April 5 - Teacher Professional Development Day - No School for all students

April 6 - First Day of Return for all students

April 13 - CSC Meeting - 4:15 - 5:15 pm

May 11 - CSC Meeting - 4:15 - 5:15 pm

May 28 - Last Day of School - HALF DAY FOR ALL STUDENTS

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## RESOURCES FOR FAMILIES!

### **FREE TAX HELP!**

The Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) program is offering free tax help to individuals who earn less than \$57,000. VITA is trusted and free of charge. The preparers will help you claim all available tax credits. VITA preparers are trained and certified by the Internal Revenue Service (IRS). To learn more please click the link below.

- [Free Tax Help - English](#)
- [Free Tax Help - Spanish](#)
- [Free Tax Help - Arabic](#)
- [Free Tax Help - Farsi](#)

### **UPDATES ON CITIZENSHIP TESTING & CLASSES!**

Did you know that in December, 2020, the United States Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) updated the US Citizenship test. The test now has 128 questions and applicants will need to answer more questions correctly. The geography section was removed and the history and civics test expanded, resulting in a longer test requiring more complete answers. If you or someone you know is interested in participating in the class, please contact Julio Trujillo 720-424-2972 or via email at [Julio\\_Trujillo@dpsk12.net](mailto:Julio_Trujillo@dpsk12.net) or Tristan Benitez at 720-424-2961 [tristan\\_benitez@dpsk12.net](mailto:tristan_benitez@dpsk12.net). The class will start on January 19th, virtually during the day and in the evening.

### **DO YOU NEED HELP WITH PAYMENTS FOR ESSENTIAL BILLS?**

If you are having issues with payments for essential bills, FACE CENTER is supporting families with utility bills - rent, energy etc. They will also help walk families through completing your application. There is also support for undocumented families available and they will connect families to those who are processing the apps. If you are interested, please reach out to: FACE Center - Johnson Elementary School - Phone: 720-424-2970 FACE Center – Phone: 720-424-2961

### **FREE COVID TESTING!**

DPS is pleased to announce we are expanding our partnership with COVIDCheck Colorado to offer our free COVID-19 testing for students to support a safe return to school. Our full community of students and staff will now have the opportunity to take an initial COVID-19 test before coming back to school as well as ongoing screening tests every other week... For more information click [HERE](#). You can see an updated list of testing sites [HERE](#) including a link to register and schedule testing appointment for your students. The test will be completed via nasal PCR test or SalivaDirect™, and results will be returned within 36-72 hours.

### **FREE FAMILY SUPPORT SERVICES OFFERED AT THE FACE CENTER!**

The FACE Centers offer free wraparound services to community members 16 or older in order to obtain critical life skills to increase their economic self-sufficiency and the academic achievement of their students. The FACE Centers offer a variety of multi-generation services at one location, making it convenient for families to benefit from multiple services offered in their school community. Participants do not have to be DPS parents, all services are open to all community members.

**LIST OF SERVICES OFFERED:**

1. **GED Classes**
2. **Workforce development - job placement, resume building, workforce training, interview preparation**
3. **DPS Hiring Pipeline - for jobs available in Food Services Department, Facilities, Paraprofessional and more!**
4. **English Classes**
5. **Financial Literacy**
6. **Citizenship classes**
7. **Computer classes**
8. **Early Literacy classes**
9. **Legal Clinics and Workshops**
10. **Basic needs assistance**
11. **Social Emotional Support**
12. **Free Childcare during all classes**

**FOR MORE INFORMATION ON CLASS SCHEDULE AND TO REGISTER FOR ANY OF THE CLASSES AND SERVICES, PLEASE CONTACT:**

- FACE Center - Johnson Elementary School 1850 South Irving St, Denver, CO 80219  
Phone: 720-424-2970
- FACE Center – John H. Amesse Elementary School 5440 Scranton St, Denver, CO 80239 Phone: 720-424-2961

**FAMILY CONSTITUENCY SERVICES - CONTENTS SCHOOL AND DISTRICT RESOURCES!**

For general Denver Public Schools questions or concerns, contact the Family & Community Helpline at [720-423-3054](tel:720-423-3054) or email [FACEHelpline@dpsk12.org](mailto:FACEHelpline@dpsk12.org).

**PLACE BRIDGE ACADEMY/DENVER HUMAN SERVICES PARTNERSHIP - HELP WITH APPLYING FOR BENEFITS:**

Our Partnership with Denver Human Services is ongoing! Please reach out to Juanita Chavez @ 720-483-6606 if you need assistance with any of the following:

- Rental Assist
- Motel Vouchers
- Family Reunification
- State ID/Birth Certificate Waivers
- MEDICAID, SNAP, TANF ASSISTANCE



**PBA WEBSITE [CLICK HERE](#)**

**2020/2021 STUDENT/PARENT HANDBOOK  
[CLICK HERE](#)**

**2020/2021 DPS SCHOOL CALENDAR [CLICK HERE](#)**

2020/2021 DPS FAMILY RETURN TO SCHOOL  
GUIDE CLICK [HERE](#)

COLLABORATIVE SCHOOL COMMITTEE (CSC)  
CLICK [HERE](#)

1ST QUARTER PARENT MEETING  
PRESENTATION SLIDES CLICK [HERE](#)

2ND QUARTER PARENT MEETING  
PRESENTATION SLIDES CLICK [HERE](#)

CYBERBULLING HANDOUT CLICK [HERE](#)



**PLACE BRIDGE ACADEMY**  
— *Bringing the World Together* —

**School Vision: Competent, Confident, and Caring Students Ready to Pursue their Dreams!**

Place Bridge Academy  
Attendance Line: 720-424-0968  
720-424-0960 | [place.dpsk12.org](http://place.dpsk12.org)